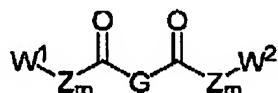


Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the current application.

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended). A compound of a formula I:



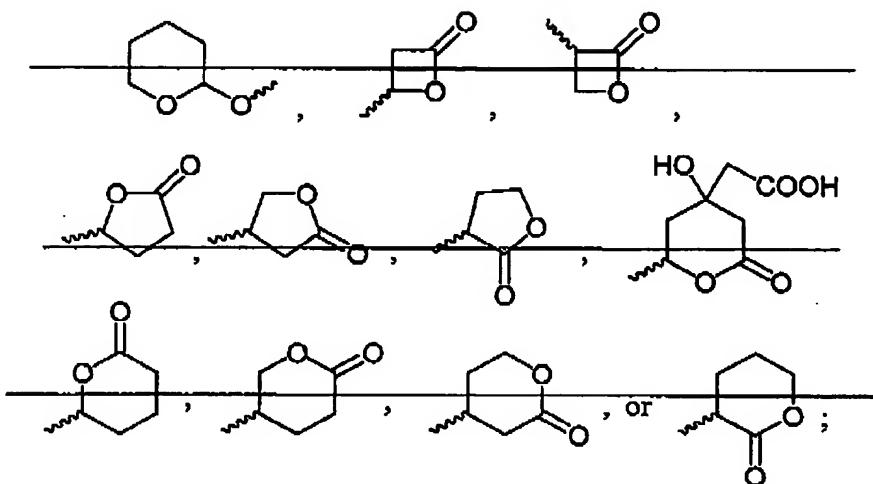
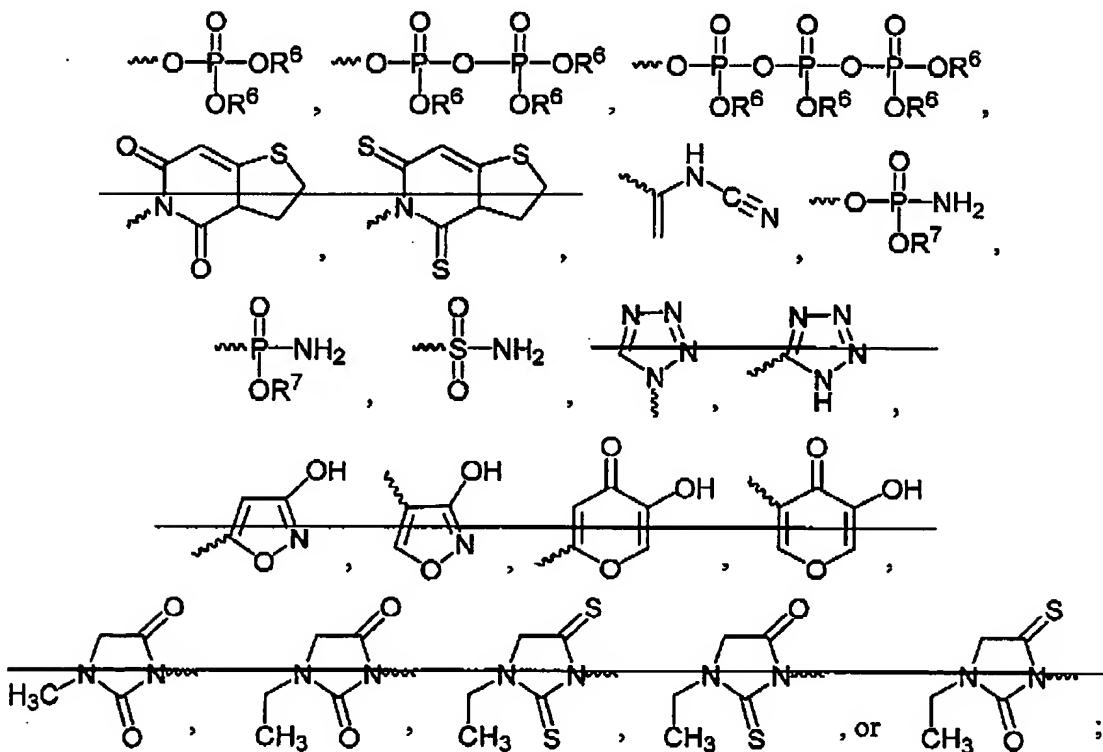
I

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

- (a) each occurrence of Z is independently  $\text{CH}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}$ , or phenyl, and wherein each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9, but when Z is phenyl then its associated m is 1;
- (b) G is  $(\text{CH}_2)_x$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CHCH}_2$ ,  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2$ -phenyl- $\text{CH}_2$ , or phenyl, wherein x is 2, 3, or 4;
- (c)  $\text{W}^1$  and  $\text{W}^2$  are independently  $\text{L-V}$ , or  $\text{C}(\text{R}^1)(\text{R}^2)-(\text{CH}_2)_c-\text{C}(\text{R}^3)(\text{R}^4)-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{Y}$ , or  $\text{C}(\text{R}^1)(\text{R}^2)-(\text{CH}_2)_c-\text{Y}$ , wherein c is 1 or 2 and n is an independent integer ranging from 0 to 4;
- (d)  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  are independently  $\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkenyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkynyl}$ , phenyl, or benzyl or when  $\text{W}^1$  or  $\text{W}^2$  is  $\text{C}(\text{R}^1)(\text{R}^2)-(\text{CH}_2)_c-\text{C}(\text{R}^3)(\text{R}^4)-\text{Y}$ , then  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  can both be H, or  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_7)\text{cycloakyl}$  group;
- (e)  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  are independently H, OH,  $\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkenyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkynyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkoxy}$ , phenyl, benzyl, Cl, Br, CN,  $\text{NO}_2$ , or  $\text{CF}_3$ , with the proviso that when  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  are both H, then one of  $\text{R}^3$  or  $\text{R}^4$  is not H or  $\text{R}^3$  and  $\text{R}^4$  and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_7)\text{cycloakyl}$  group::

(f) L is  $C(R^1)(R^2)-(CH_2)_n-Y$ ;

(g) V is

(h)(g) Y is  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl, OH, COOH, CHO,  $COOR^3$ ,  $SO_3H$ ,

where

- (I)  $R^5$  is  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl,  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH,  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkoxy, or phenyl groups,
- (ii) each occurrence of  $R^6$  is independently H,  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl,  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkenyl, or  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH,  $C_1-C_6$  alkoxy, or phenyl groups; and
- (iii) each occurrence of  $R^7$  is independently H,  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl,  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkenyl, or  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkynyl; and

provided that:

- (i) if  $G$  is  $(CH_2)_x$ ,  $x$  is 4, each occurrence of  $Z$  is  $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $m$  is 4, and  $W^1$  is  $-CH(CH_3)CO_2H$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ ; and
- (ii) if  $G$  is  $CH_2$ -phenyl- $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $Z$  is  $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $m$  is 2, and  $W^1$  is  $-C(CH_3)_2CH(CO_2CH_2CH_3)_2$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ ;
- (iii) if  $G$  is  $CH_2$ -phenyl- $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $Z$  is  $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $m$  is 2, and  $W^1$  is  $-C(CH_3)_2CH_2(CO_2CH_2CH_3)$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ ;
- (iv) if  $G$  is  $CH_2$ -phenyl- $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $Z$  is  $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $m$  is 1, and  $W^1$  is  $-COCH_2C(CH_3)_2CH_2CO_2H$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ ;
- (v) (ii) if  $G$  is  $(CH_2)_x$ ,  $x$  is 4, each occurrence of  $Z$  is  $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $m$  is 2, and  $W^1$  is  $-C(phenyl)_2CH_2CO_2H$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ ;
- (vi) if  $G$  is  $CH=CH$ , each occurrence of  $Z$  is  $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $m$  is 1, and  $W^1$  is  $-C(CH_3)_2CH_2(CO_2H)$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ ; and

(vii) if G is phenyl, each occurrence of Z is  $\text{CH}_2$ , each occurrence of m is 1, and  $\text{W}^1$  is  $\text{C}(\text{phenyl})_2\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ , then  $\text{W}^2$  is not the same as  $\text{W}^1$ .

Claim 2 (currently amended). The compound of claim 1, wherein:

- (a)  $\text{W}^1$  and  $\text{W}^2$  are independently both  $\text{L}$ ,  $\text{V}$ , or  $\text{C}(\text{R}^1)(\text{R}^2)-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{Y}$  where n is 1 or 2; and
- (b)  $\text{R}^1$  or  $\text{R}^2$  are independently  $(\text{C}_1\text{C}_6)$ allyl,  $(\text{C}_2\text{C}_6)$ alkenyl,  $(\text{C}_2\text{C}_6)$ alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl.

Claims 3 (original). The compound of claim 1, wherein  $\text{W}^1$  is  $\text{L}$ .

Claim 4 (canceled).

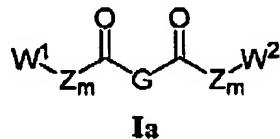
Claim 5 (original). The compound of claim 1, wherein  $\text{W}^1$  is  $\text{C}(\text{R}^1)(\text{R}^2)-(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{C}(\text{R}^3)(\text{R}^4)-(\text{CH}_2)_m\text{Y}$ .

Claim 6 (canceled).

Claim 7 (original). The compound of claim 1, wherein  $\text{W}^1$  and  $\text{W}^2$  are independent L groups.

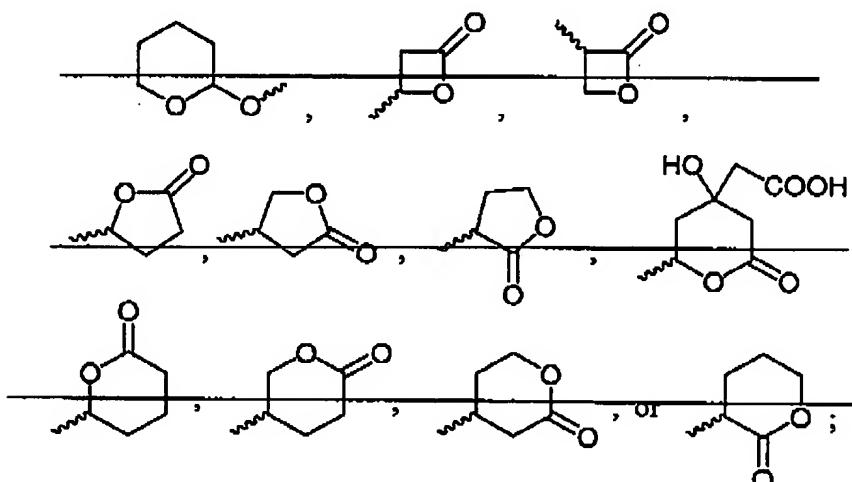
Claim 8 (original). The compound of claim 7, wherein each occurrence of Y is independently  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{OH}$ ,  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}^5$ , or  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOH}$ .

Claim 9 (currently amended). A compound of the formula Ia:

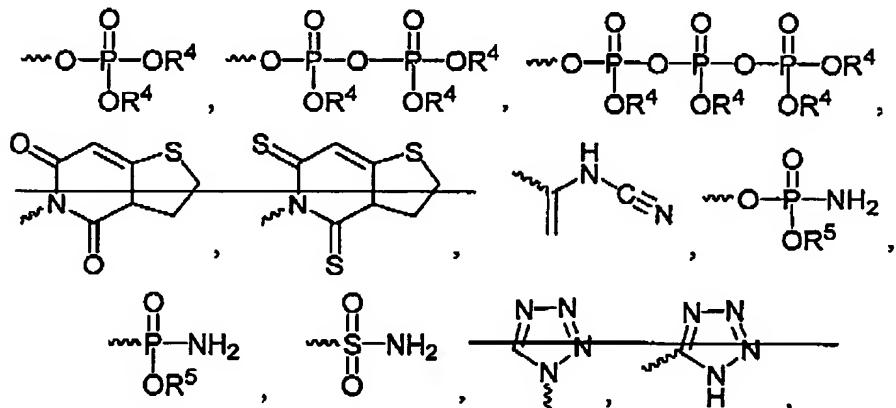


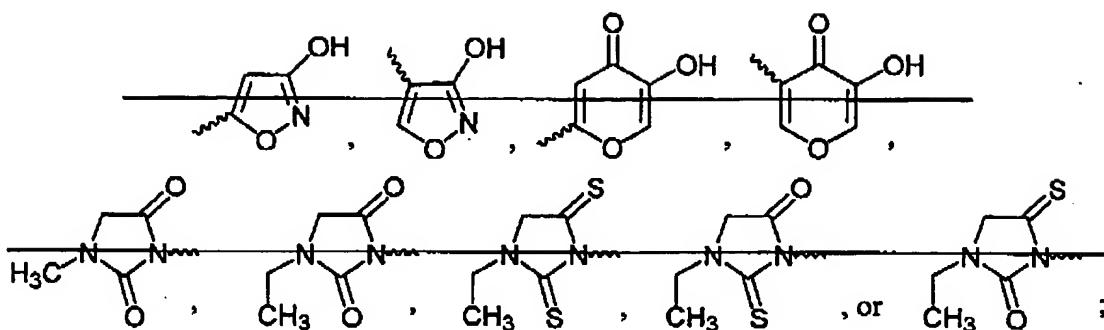
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein

- (a) each occurrence of Z is independently  $\text{CH}_2$  or  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}$ , wherein each occurrence of m is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9;
- (b) G is  $(\text{CH}_2)_x$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}=\text{CHCH}_2$ , or  $\text{CH}=\text{CH}$ , where x is 2, 3, or 4;
- (c)  $\text{W}^1$  and  $\text{W}^2$  are independently  $\text{L}$ ,  $\text{V}$ , or  $\text{C}(\text{R}^1)(\text{R}^2)-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{V}$ , where n is 1 or 2;
- (d) each occurrence of  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  is independently  $\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkenyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkynyl}$ , phenyl, benzyl, or  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_7)\text{cycloalkyl}$  group;
- (e)  $\text{L}$  is  $\text{C}(\text{R}^1)(\text{R}^2)-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{Y}$ , where n is an independent integer ranging from 0 to 4;
- (f)  $\text{V}$  is



- (g) each occurrence of Y is independently  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ , OH, COOH, CHO,  $(\text{CH}_2)_n\text{COOR}^3$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,





where

- ( $\oplus$ )(i)  $R^3$  is ( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl, ( $C_2$ - $C_6$ )alkenyl, ( $C_2$ - $C_6$ )alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH, ( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkoxy, or phenyl groups,
- (ii) each occurrence of  $R^4$  is independently H, ( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl, ( $C_2$ - $C_6$ )alkenyl, or ( $C_2$ - $C_6$ )alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH,  $C_1$ - $C_6$  alkoxy, or phenyl groups; and
- (iii) each occurrence of  $R^5$  is independently H, ( $C_1$ - $C_6$ )alkyl, ( $C_2$ - $C_6$ )alkenyl, or ( $C_2$ - $C_6$ )alkynyl; and

provided that:

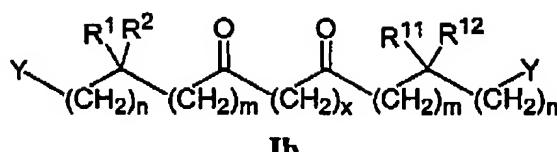
- (i) if  $x$  is 4, each occurrence of  $Z$  is  $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $m$  is 4, and  $W^1$  is  $-CH(CH_3)CO_2H$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ ;
- (ii) if  $x$  is 4, each occurrence of  $Z$  is  $CH_2$ , each occurrence of  $m$  is 2, and  $W^1$  is  $-C(phenyl)_2CH_2CO_2H$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ .

Claims 10-12 (canceled).

Claim 13 (original). The compound of claim 9, wherein  $W^1$  and  $W^2$  are independent L groups.

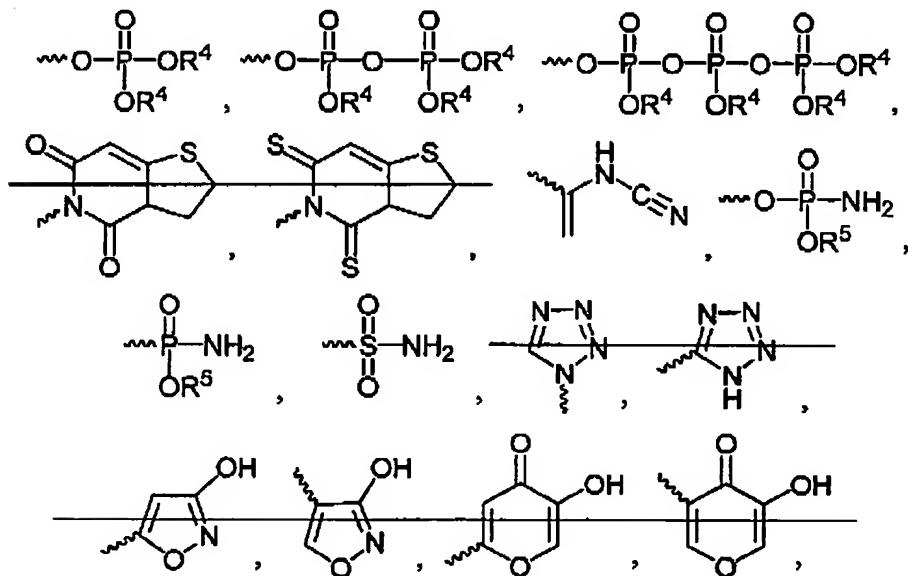
Claim 14 (original). The compound of claim 13, wherein each occurrence of Y is independently OH,  $COOR^3$ , or COOH.

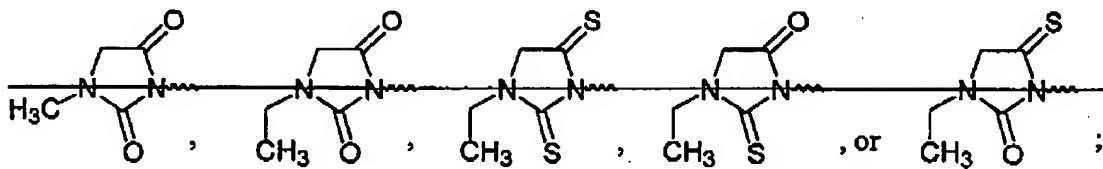
Claim 15 (currently amended). A compound of the formula Ib



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, hydrate, solvate, or a mixture thereof, wherein:

- (a) each occurrence of  $m$  is independently an integer ranging from 1 to 9;
- (b)  $x$  is 2, 3, or 4;
- (c)  $n$  is an independent integer ranging from 0 to 4;
- (d) each occurrence of  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  is independently  $\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkenyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkynyl}$ , phenyl, benzyl, or  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_7)\text{cycloakyl}$  group;
- (e) each occurrence of  $\text{R}^{11}$  and  $\text{R}^{12}$  is independently H,  $\text{CO}_2\text{H}$ ,  $\text{CO}_2(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkenyl}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6)\text{alkynyl}$ , phenyl, benzyl, or  $\text{R}^{11}$  and  $\text{R}^{12}$  and the carbon to which they are both attached are taken together to form a  $(\text{C}_3\text{-C}_7)\text{cycloakyl}$  group;
- (f) each occurrence of  $\text{Y}$  is independently  $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{alkyl}$ , OH, COOH, CHO,  $\text{COOR}^3$ ,  $\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ ,





where

- (i)  $R^3$  is  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl,  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkenyl,  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkynyl, phenyl, or benzyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or more halo, OH,  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkoxy, or phenyl groups,
- (ii) each occurrence of  $R^4$  is independently H,  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl,  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkenyl, or  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkynyl and is unsubstituted or substituted with one or two halo, OH,  $C_1-C_6$ alkoxy, or phenyl groups; and
- (iii) each occurrence of  $R^5$  is independently H,  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl,  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkenyl, or  $(C_2-C_6)$ alkynyl;

provided that:

- (i) if  $x$  is 4 each occurrence of  $m$  is 4, and  $W^1$  is  $-CH(CH_3)CO_2H$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ ;
- (ii) if  $x$  is 4 each occurrence of  $m$  is 2, and  $W^1$  is  $-C(phenyl)_2CH_2CO_2H$ , then  $W^2$  is not the same as  $W^1$ .

Claim 16 (original). The compound of claim 15, wherein each occurrence of Y is independently OH,  $COOR^3$ , or COOH.

Claim 17 (original). The compound of claim 16, wherein each  $R^1$  or  $R^2$  is the same or different  $(C_1-C_6)$ alkyl group.

Claim 18 (canceled).

Claim 19 (original). A compound according to claim 1, having the formula 5-[2-(5-hydroxy-4,4-dimethyl-pentyloxy)-ethoxy]-2,2-dimethyl-pentan-1-ol or 4-[3-(3,3-Dimethyl-4-oxo-butoxy)-propoxy]-2,2-dimethyl-butyric acid.

Claims 20-33 (canceled).

Claim 34 (currently amended). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30 and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, excipient, or diluent.

Claim 35 (original). A pharmaceutical composition comprising the following compound: 6-(5,5-Dimethyl-6-hydroxy-hexane-1-sulfinyl)-2,2-dimethyl-hexan-1-ol or pharmaceutically acceptable salts, hydrates, solvates, clathrates, enantiomers, diasteriomers, racemates, or mixtures of stereoisomers thereof and a pharmaceutically acceptable vehicle, excipient, or diluent.

Claim 36 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing a cardiovascular disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 37 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing a dyslipidemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 38 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing a dyslipoproteinemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 39 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing a disorder of glucose metabolism in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 40 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing Alzheimer's Disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 41 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing Syndrome X or Metabolic Syndrome in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 42 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing septicemia in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 43 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing a thrombotic disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 44 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing a peroxisome proliferator activated receptor associated disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 45 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing obesity in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 46 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing pancreatitis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment

or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 47 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing hypertension in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 48 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing renal disease in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 49 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing cancer in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 50 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing inflammation in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 51 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing impotence in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

Claim 52 (currently amended). A method for treating or preventing a neurodegenerative disease or disorder in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

**Claim 53 (currently amended).** A method of inhibiting hepatic fatty acid synthesis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

**Claim 54 (currently amended).** A method of inhibiting sterol synthesis in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need thereof a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

**Claim 55 (currently amended).** A method of treating or preventing metabolic syndrome disorders in a patient, comprising administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically or prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

**Claim 56 (currently amended).** A method of treating or preventing a disease or disorder that is capable of being treated or prevented by increasing HDL levels, which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.

**Claim 57 (currently amended).** A method of treating or preventing a disease or disorder that is capable of being treated or prevented by lowering LDL levels, which comprises administering to such patient in need of such treatment or prevention a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1, 9, or 15, 18, 20, 21, 26, or 30.